

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:
BOYNTON, et al.

Serial No.: **09/939,166**Filed: **August 24, 2001**

For: **VACUUM ASSISTED TISSUE
TREATMENT SYSTEM**

Examiner:

Group Art Unit: **3763**Attorney Docket No.: **VAC.715**

#5/electric
Anett C
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3-17-04

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
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Dear Sir or Madam:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 6, 20, and 22.

Please amend claims 1, 14 through 19, 21, and 23 through 26, 28, 31, and 34 through 36 as follows:

1. (Amended) A system for stimulating the healing of tissue, comprising:

- a porous pad;
- an airtight dressing;
- a means for connecting a distal end of a conduit through the dressing;
- a canister removably connected to a proximal end of the conduit;
- an electric pump for applying negative pressure to a wound site;